

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:RJDOLS:JK

APPROVED BY AF:JWFOLEY:NSC:HHORAN

AF:DBEASUM (DRAFT)

S/S-MR. LUERS

P- JJSISCO (BY. P. MARTINEZ)

----- 035381

P R 110026Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, SF, US

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH SA EMBASSY CHARGE

REF.: STATE 174067

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

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1. SA EMBASSY CHARGE LOUW MET AUGUST 10 WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO AT DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST. SISCO SAID HE WISHED TO REITERATE MAJOR POINTS IN MESSAGE SENT AUGUST 9 FROM SECRETARY KISSINGER TO SAG REAFFIRMING BI-PARTISAN NATURE AND CONTINUITY OF U.S. POLICY UNDER NEW ADMINISTRATION; (2) IT IS INTENTION OF PRESIDENT FORD TO CONTINUE MAIN LINES OF PRESENT U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. SISCO SAID HE BELIEVED THIS WILL BE ONE OF SMOOTHEST GOVERNMENTAL TRANSITIONS IN U.S. HISTORY AS PRESIDENT FORD HAS BEEN BRIEFED DAILY ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAS ALREADY

DEMONSTRATED THAT HE IS FULLY PREPARED TO DEAL WITH THESE MATTERS. SISCO CONCLUDED BY REQUESTING LOUW TO SUPPLEMENT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S AUGUST 9 MESSAGE WITH REPORT TO SAG ON CONVERSATION WITH SISCO.

2. LOUW RESPONDED HE WOULD INFORM SAG THAT HE INTERPRETED TRANSITION IN SIMILAR LIGHT, I.E., AS INVOLVING NO CHANGE OF POLICY, ESPECIALLY IN U.S.-S.A. BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. SISCO THEN ASKED LOUW FOR ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT AFRICAN PICTURE AS SEEN BY SAG. LOUW REPLIED SAG TRYING IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN STATES, BUT THAT IN UN ESPECIALLY, SOUTH WEST AFRICA IS PROBLEM. HE RECOUNTED "MISCHIEFMAKING" SWEDISH PRESS REPORT OF MASSACRE IN CAPRIVI AND SAID FORMIN MULLER HAD INVITED SWEDISH JOURNALISTS TO VISIT SOUTH WEST AFRICA WITH OFFER OF FREE MOVEMENT TO ESTABLISH FACTS. ACCORDING LOUW, JOURNALISTS WHO ORIGINATED STORY ACCEPTED OFFER WITH CONDITIONS NOT FULLY KNOWN TO HIM EXCEPT THAT ONE CONDITION INVOLVED COMMISSIONER FOR NAMIBIA. SAG THEN REJECTED CONDITIONS, BUT OTHER JOURNALISTS HAVE ACCEPTED MULLER'S OFFER.

4. SISCO ASKED FOR LOUW'S ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION IN PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES. LOUW REPLIED SITUATION IN PAT'S SHOULD NOT HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON SAG RELIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIONS WITH AFRICAN STATES. IN FACT, CURRENT EVOLUTION OF EVENTS OFFERED OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPROVEMENT THESE RELATIONS AND SAG LOOKS FORWARD TO GOOD RELATIONS WITH MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA WHEN AFRICANS TAKE OVER.

5. IN REPLY QUESTION ABOUT SAG OUTWARD MOVEMENT POLICY, LOUW SAID THE POLICY WAS CONTINUING. SOME AFRICAN STATES ARE IN FAVOR OF DIALOGUE, BUT PROBLEM IS "HOT-HEADS" WHO

INHIBIT DIALOGUE. LOUW CLAIMED FORMIN MULLER HAD VISITED SEVERAL AFRICAN STATES, BUT SKIRTED A QUESTION AS TO WHICH ONES. HOWEVER, HE SAID SA DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS HAD VISITED IVORY COAST AND GABON AND SA EMBASSY HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH MOST AFRICAN AMBASSADORS IN WASHINGTON. LOUW CONCLUDED THAT DIALOGUE IS CONTINUING "UNDER COVER" BUT SAG WOULD PREFER TO SEE IT IN THE OPEN.

6. IN RESPONSE UNDER SECRETARY'S QUESTION ABOUT ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN SA AND AF STATES, LOUW SAID

1972 FIGURES SHOWED 15 PER CENT OF SA EXPORTS GO TO AF STATES, BUT THAT INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY TRADE STATISTICS NOT PUBLISHED TO AVOID EMBARRASSMENT. LOUW ADDED THAT FOREIGN VISITORS REPORT SEEING SA PRODUCTS IN ZAIRE, THAT MINING EQUIPMENT IS SOLD TO GHANA, AND SA IS ZAMBIA'S SECOND MOST IMPORTANT FOREIGN SUPPLIER. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE175380
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RJDOLS:JK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740220-0021
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740857/aaaabwqu.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: : STATE 174067
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDER SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH SA EMBASSY CHARGE
TAGS: PFOR, SF, US
To: CAPE TOWN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005